

Message Text

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BONN FOR USDEL SCIENTIFIC FORUM

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: CSCE

SUBJECT: POLISH VIEWS ON CSCE SCIENTIFIC FORUM

1. POLISH EMBASSY MINISTER PAWLISZEWSKI CALLED AT
DEPARTMENT (EUR/RPM) ON JUNE 19 TO PRESENT POLISH VIEWS
ON BONN PREPARATORY MEETING FOR CSCE SCIENTIFIC FORUM.
PAWLISZEWSKI STRESSED THE POLISH OPINION THAT THE
SCIENTIFIC FORUM SHOULD ABOVE ALL MAKE A "POSITIVE"
AND "CONSTRUCTIVE" CONTRIBUTION TOWARD ENHANCING
SCIENTIFIC EXCHANGES AND TO THE CSCE PROCESS ITSELF.
HE ARGUED THAT THE BELGRADE MEETING HAD BEEN DOMINATED
TOO MUCH BY "POLITICAL" DEBATES WHICH HAD NOT MOVED THE
CSCE PROCESS FORWARD. THE BONN MEETING SHOULD CONCENTRATE
ON THE SUBSTANCE OF SCIENTIFIC EXCHANGES WHICH ALREADY
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WERE AN IMPORTANT PART OF EAST-WEST RELATIONS. IF
"POLITICAL" ISSUES WERE ALSO RAISED IN BONN OR AT THE
SCIENTIFIC FORUM ITSELF, THE ENTIRE CSCE PROCESS COULD
BE PUT IN DANGER.

2. DEPARTMENT OFFICERS AGREED THAT EVERY EFFORT SHOULD
BE MADE TO ACHIEVE A POSITIVE RESULT TO THE SCIENTIFIC

FORUM. THEY POINTED OUT, HOWEVER, THAT THE AREA OF

SCIENTIFIC EXCHANGES WAS AT THE MOMENT BURDENED WITH A NUMBER OF PROBLEMS INCLUDING QUESTIONS OF FREEDOM OF SCIENTISTS TO CONDUCT THEIR WORK AND TO CONTACT COLLEAGUES ABROAD, AS WELL AS THE ORLOV TRIAL IN THE SOVIET UNION. THESE ISSUES WERE OF GREAT IMPORTANCE TO SCIENTISTS IN THE UNITED STATES AND WESTERN EUROPE. THE DEPARTMENT COULD NOT SPEAK FOR THE AMERICAN SCIENTISTS WHO ULTIMATELY WOULD PARTICIPATE IN THE SCIENTIFIC FORUM, BUT IT SEEMED MOST LIKELY THAT THEY WOULD WISH TO RAISE SUCH SUBJECTS. DEPARTMENT OFFICERS STRESSED THAT THE US WOULD NOT ADOPT A POLEMICAL APPROACH TO EITHER THE BONN MEETING OR THE SCIENTIFIC FORUM. WE WOULD, HOWEVER, WISH TO ENSURE THAT PARTICIPANTS IN THE SCIENTIFIC FORUM WOULD BE FREE TO RAISE WHATEVER TOPIC THEY BELIEVED WAS APPROPRIATE TO THE DISCUSSION.

3. PAWLISZEWSKI QUESTIONED THAT THERE WERE IMPORTANT PROBLEMS IN THE FIELD OF SCIENTIFIC EXCHANGES. HE ARGUED THAT SEVERAL HUNDRED POLISH SCIENTISTS TRAVELED ABROAD EACH YEAR WITHOUT ANY CONTROL FROM THE POLISH GOVERNMENT. HE SAID THAT SCIENTIFIC EXCHANGES WERE AN IMPORTANT PART OF EAST-WEST RELATIONS WHICH WERE OF BENEFIT TO BOTH SIDES. HE FEARED THAT IF "POLITICAL" ISSUES WERE RAISED AT THE SCIENTIFIC FORUM, THE RESULT

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WOULD BE BACKWARD MOVEMENT RATHER THAN PROGRESS IN THIS IMPORTANT FIELD.

4. DEPARTMENT OFFICERS REMINDED PAWLISZEWSKI THAT THE ORLOV TRIAL HAD ALREADY CAUSED CONSIDERABLE REACTION AMONG SCIENTISTS IN THE UNITED STATES. NEITHER THE CSCE PROCESS NOR EFFORTS TO STIMULATE SCIENTIFIC EXCHANGES WOULD BE FACILITATED IF CSCE COUNTRIES ATTEMPTED TO IGNORE OR ARTIFICIALLY STIFLE CONTROVERSIAL ISSUES AT THE SCIENTIFIC FORUM. THEY ASSURED PAWLISZEWSKI THAT THE US WAS NOT SEEKING A CONFRONTATION AT THE SCIENTIFIC FORUM, BUT SAID IT WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE TO IGNORE PROBLEMS WHICH EXISTED.

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